



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 167

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2021

No. 165

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. NEGUSE).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 23, 2021.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOE NEGUSE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

IOWAN GOOD SAMARITANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a group of Good Samaritans who recently brought Iowa nice to Louisiana.

Earlier this month, the New Sharon Fire Department of Mahaska County joined dozens of recovery teams from across the Nation to perform disaster relief efforts and assist in search and rescue operations in Louisiana after Hurricane Ida.

Thanks to the generosity of the New Sharon and Mahaska County community, the New Sharon Fire Department has aided in recovery efforts both in the Hawkeye State and elsewhere across the country for 16 years.

In 2018 the New Sharon Fire Department assisted local Texas recovery teams in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey, and last year they traveled to help local communities that were devastated by Hurricanes Laura and Sally.

I thank the New Sharon Fire Department and the citizens of Mahaska County for answering the call to serve and being incredible examples of the generosity and selflessness of Iowans.

THE GENEROSITY OF THE QUAD CITIES BICYCLE CLUB

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share an Iowa nice story about looking out for one of our own.

Joseph Stewart, a resident of Bettendorf in Scott County, relied on his bicycle for years to make his 3-mile roundtrip commute to work every single day, but after his bicycle broke, the time of his daily commute doubled. For over a month after losing his only means of transportation, Joe would walk in between the highway and the railroad tracks to make it to work, not missing a single day of work. This is when Quad Cities Bicycle Club member Kathy Storm noticed Joe walking with a big smile on his face despite his circumstances.

The Quad City Bicycle Club is known for their generosity, with members donating bikes to share their love of cycling with other members of the community.

After getting to talking, Kathy learned Joe's situation and later showed up to his place of employment with a big surprise—a new bike that was donated by the club.

It is stories like these that make us smile and inspire others to help their own neighbors. And this is just one small example of why Iowa is the best

place to live, work, play, and raise a family.

IRON DOME FUNDING

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on the importance of the United States continuing to support our allies, specifically Israel.

Israel has long been a key strategic ally for the United States. Our relationship is mutually beneficial, and it is important that we work to support them whenever we can. That means fully funding the Iron Dome missile defense system must be a top priority of this Chamber.

The Iron Dome is a mobile all-weather air defense system designed to intercept and destroy short-range rockets and artillery shells whose trajectory would take them to an Israeli populated area. This system is purely defensive and designed to protect civilians. Innocent bystanders of all ethnicities, nationalities, and faiths rely on the Iron Dome for safety and protection.

When terrorist groups like Hamas and Hezbollah fire thousands of rockets into Israel, as they did earlier this year, the Iron Dome system quickly destroyed them and saved countless lives. Unfortunately, the majority wants to play games with this vital program. Earlier this week, the funding for the Iron Dome was stripped from the majority's continuing resolution amid protests from progressive Members.

For years, the United States has consistently funded the Iron Dome on a strong bipartisan basis to help Israel defend itself from rocket attacks from terrorist organizations. There has never been a situation where military aid for Israel was held up because of objections from Members of Congress. It is disgraceful that the majority would remove the \$1 billion in funding for the Iron Dome to appease the far left that seems to have taken over their agenda. Not funding the Iron Dome puts lives at risk for absolutely no reason. While I appreciate the majority introducing

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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standalone legislation to fully fund the system, it should not have come to this to ensure the safety of our allies.

After a summer that saw 2 weeks of fighting between Israel and Palestine, it is beyond clear to me that we must support Israel. Israel has long been a U.S. ally in a region marked by decades of conflict and turmoil. They are a strong democracy and share our views on many issues.

I am proud to say what many in the majority will not, that I firmly stand in support of Israel and continuing to build our partnership for years to come.

AND STILL I RISE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise, a proud, liberated Democrat unbought and unbossed in the spirit of Shirley Chisholm.

And I rise today with a very simple message: Black lives still matter. It doesn't matter who is in power, Black lives matter. The circumstances haven't changed. Black lives matter wherever they happen to be. They matter in Haiti, and they matter at the southern border.

Mr. Speaker, what you see here is despicable and reprehensible. This is what is happening at the southern border, persons on horses lashing out apparently at persons who are from Haiti. Black lives still matter, and it is important to note that these persons, when they are rounded up apparently and sent back to Haiti, are given \$50, a phone card and some food. Many of these persons haven't been to Haiti in over a decade—over 10 years—and they are given \$50, a phone card, and some food.

Black lives matter. This has got to change. This is why I have introduced H. Res. 670. It condemns the actions that we have seen at the border; it condemns the actions. It doesn't condemn the people; it condemns the actions. I have some personal thoughts about the behavior of the people and the people themselves, but this resolution condemns these actions. I believe all people of goodwill should find these actions abhorrent and deplorable.

I also believe that those who tolerate injustice—this is an injustice—those who tolerate injustice perpetuate injustice.

I am asking that H. Res. 670 be brought to the floor of this House so that this House can go on record as opposing what we have seen at the border that is inhumane. We ought to go on record opposing this.

We have gone on record opposing things that have been said by people who are within the House and without the House. This House has gone on record when we have had these seminal moments in time. This is another seminal moment in time that requires some time on the floor of this House to

show the world that we stand for justice and that this injustice should not stand.

Finally, I indicated that when they are deported to Haiti they receive \$50, some food, and a phone card. But here is something that I find appalling as well: Haitians have been given temporary protected status in this country. Mr. Speaker, if you were here at a certain time prior to a certain time, you were given temporary protected status. Well, we are sending people who are Haitians back to Haiti who haven't been there in 10 years, but there are others who will stay because we are saying that the conditions are not acceptable to send people back to Haiti. That contradiction has to be reconciled. We shouldn't be sending people to Haiti when we said that Haiti is not safe for us to send Haitians to.

Mr. Speaker, Black lives still matter. It doesn't matter who is in power, Mr. Speaker. Circumstances don't change, and until they change, a liberated Democrat is going to continue to say that we must be a part of that change.

I pray that we will have H. Res. 670 brought to the floor so that we can show the world that we believe Black lives matter.

HONORING AND CELEBRATING RABBI MICAH GREENSTEIN'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY AT TEMPLE ISRAEL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. KUSTOFF) for 5 minutes.

Mr. KUSTOFF. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor and congratulate a great Memphian and friend, Rabbi Micah Greenstein, who is celebrating 30 years of service and commitment to Temple Israel in Memphis and the entire Jewish community.

Rabbi Greenstein is the eighth senior rabbi at Temple Israel, a synagogue founded in the 1850s. He has served as senior rabbi for over 20 years and is now celebrating his 30th anniversary at Temple Israel.

In 1991, after completing his undergraduate and graduate degrees at Cornell University, Harvard, and the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Rabbi Greenstein came to Memphis, a place he and his family have called home for more than 30 years.

Over the years, Rabbi Greenstein has served as two-time president of the Memphis Ministers Association, was the first rabbi to speak at the Washington National Cathedral on a major state day and has been named by Newsweek magazine as one of the top American rabbis in 2012 and 2013.

Rabbi Greenstein has been honored with the Memphis City Council Humanitarian Award and the Memphis Theological Seminary's President's Humanitarian Award. As clearly demonstrated, Rabbi Greenstein has worked throughout his career to make his community, his home in Memphis, and his country a better place.

Mr. Speaker, when you speak with members of Temple Israel, they will tell you how extraordinary the congregation is, and that is due to the rabbi's dedication, his charisma, and his passion. I talked to Laurie Meskin, the current president of Temple Israel. She stated: "Rabbi Greenstein has made our synagogue, Temple Israel, what it is today. He is truly gifted at mobilizing people from near and afar, is a great communicator and orator, and believes in a vibrant Jewish future for all of us in Memphis."

From my good friend and former Temple Israel president, Billy Orgel: "Many families at Temple Israel are very intertwined with the Greenstein family, as everyone knows each other in Memphis. Our kids know each other very well and are all the same age. Rabbi Micah is a good friend who is there in sickness and in health."

He continues: "He is not just our rabbi, but to many in the Memphis community, no matter their religious background, he is a close friend as well. He is their rabbi too."

Rabbi Greenstein has forged bonds with numerous other religious leaders in Memphis and throughout the country. For example, he led Memphis' first interfaith religious leaders mission to Israel years ago.

Another friend of mine, Mark Halperin, also another former Temple Israel president, said: "Ultimately, the unique thing about Rabbi Micah is that he is the whole community's rabbi. Temple Israel is a special place, but it makes it more special to have someone like Rabbi Micah there with us."

In a 1999 profile of the rabbi in Memphis Magazine, the article cited a then young college-age Micah Greenstein finishing at Harvard's JFK School of Government and deciding to switch studies from what he said was public service to Jewish service. The rabbi went on to say: "I'm doing exactly what I think God intended for me to do, to touch people's lives in a Jewish way, to make the world more human, and to bring people together to share their differences."

Roberta and I congratulate Rabbi Micah, his loving wife, Sheril; and their three children, Cara, Jake, and Julia, on this incredible 30-year milestone.

We say mazel tov.

□ 1015

REDUCING PENTAGON BUDGET INCREASES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, today, we will vote on my amendment, Lee 41, to the FY22 National Defense Authorization Act to reduce from this year's bill egregious Pentagon budget increases that were added during the committee markup. Our amendment will reduce no less than \$25.5 billion